

biological precursor thereof is selected from the group consisting of pregnenolone, 17 α -hydroxypregnenolone, 5-androstenediol, DHEA sulfate, 17 α -hydroxypregnenolone sulfate and 5-androstenediol sulfate.

23. (Twice Amended) A method of pro-pigmenting superficial body growths, comprising applying DHEA or at least one biological precursor thereof or metabolic derivative thereof to superficial body growths, wherein said metabolic derivative thereof is selected from the group consisting of 5-androstene-3 β ,17 β -diol, 5-androstene-3 β ,17 β -diol sulfate and 4-androstene-3,17-dione and said biological precursor thereof is selected from the group consisting of pregnenolone, 17 α -hydroxypregnenolone, 5-androstenediol, DHEA sulfate, 17 α -hydroxypregnenolone sulfate and 5-androstenediol sulfate.--

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENT

The amendment to Claims 12 and 23 is found at page 5, lines 15-17, of the specification and in Claims 14 and 25. No new matter is believed to be introduced by the above amendment.

REMARKS

Claims 12-13, 16-24, and 27-33 are pending. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

At the outset, Applicants thank Examiner Willis for withdrawing the finality of the Office Action of December 12, 2001. Further, Applicants thank Examiner Willis for indicating that the corrected drawings received on August 12, 2002, are acceptable.